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237:93

Boston 3? Feby. 1781

Sir,

Herewith Your Excellency will receive a letter from Govr. Chittenden, which I intended to have had the honour of delivering in person, but as I am informed, your Assembly ~~are~~ are not setting at this time, earnestly request your Excellency to take the earliest opportunity to communicate them for their consideration, and on any determinations thereon, must beg your Excellency to transmit their doings to Governor Chittenden, which will be acknowledged as a favour by your Excellencys

Most obet. Humble Servt

Joseph Fay

His Excellency

Meshech Weare Esqr.

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State of New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives 237:94

January 12th 1781

Whereas this State is subjected to many hardships & inconveniences on account of the unsettled situation of the inhabitants of the tract of land called the New Hampshire Grants, west of Connecticut River — A respectable number of whom, being desirous of having said tract confirmed to this State, considering the same as a part thereof — and it being highly necessary as well for the good of this State, as for the interest of the inhabitants of said tract that a speedy decision be had thereon ——

Therefore Resolved. That the Agents & Delegates from this State to the Continental Congress be instructed, and they hereby are instructed to use every possible means to induce Congress to make a speedy and final Determination of the Disputes relating to the tract of land aforesaid — and, as soon as Congress shall proceed in said Matter it is the opinion of this State, that the said agents and delegates ought to use their endeavours to have the Question "Whether the said Tract of land shall be a seperate & independent State", first determined —

That if the same shall be determined in the Negative, they and each of them urge all proper motives & arguments to have the same Tract confirmed to New Hampshire — for which purpose they are directed

directed to make use of the papers now in their possession respecting said dispute — and to procure such others as may be of service —

It is further Resolved, That the Honorable the President be desired to enclose an attested copy of this Resolve & transmit the same to the said Agents & Delegates as soon as may be

Sent up for Concurrence

John Langdon Speaker

In Council Janry 12th 1781 Read & Concurred

M Weare Presit.

237:95

State of New Hampshire

In the House of Representatives

March 30th 1781.

Voted, That Majr Hale, Capt Webster,
Colo Whittier, Colo Smith, & Mr Noyes with
such of the Honble Board as they shall
join be a committee to consider of what
is necessary to be done for the defence of
the western frontiers of this State and
Report thereon

Sent up for Concurrence

John Langdon Speaker

In Council the same day read & concd
Mr Gilman Joined

E Thompson Secy

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237:97

State of New Hampshire
In the House of Representatives
March ye 31st 1781

Whereas by the Instructions given by this House the 12th of January last to their Delegates at Congress among other things they are directed to use every possible means to induce Congress to make a speedy and finial determination of the disputes relating to a tract of land commonly called the New Hampshire Grants (west of Connecticut River) and as soon as Congress shall proceed upon that matter to use their endeavours to have the question, whether said tract shall be a seperate and independent State? first determined, which has occasioned the said Delegates some difficulty — It is therefore

Resolved, That they be instructed and they hereby are instructed to endeavour to get the said disputes relating to said tract as speedily settled as possible and to that end that they persue such methods as their discretion shall direct as the hardships & inconveniences mentioned in said Instructions are daily increasing and may be attended with pernicious consequences — and the said Delegates are hereby directed

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diligently

diligently & attentively to support the claim
of this State to said tract in every
stage of the business and exert their
utmost power to procure the same
to be confirmed to this State

Sent up for Concurrence
John Langdon Speaker

In Council the same day read & Concurred
Joseph Pearson D Sec'y.

237:99

Philadelphia July 10th 1781

Sir, Mr Livermore and myself were honored with your letter of the 20th June with the enclosures rec'd by yesterdays Post which were immediately laid before Congress and refered to a Committee with directions to report as soon as possible when the Report brought in & considered we shall give you official information. I expect the result will be a prohibition to the pretended State of Vermont exercising any Jurisdiction east of the River and an appointment of a Day for proceeding upon the examination of the dispute.

This will end in the appointment of a Committee to determine thereon. The Reason why this has not been sooner done is because there has not been a competent Congress since last Fall until within a few weeks past. I am every day more and more convinced of the Danger and impolicy of suffering the question of the Independence of Vermont to come upon the Tapis for if it should be denied New York alone will receive the advantage for the reasons mentioned in my former letter but I apprehend this would not be the case. I rather incline to think that the present Members would make desperate struggles in favour of its Independence

I scarcely dare trust my thoughts on paper, but be assured Sir, that the policy of Vermont has induced them to make enormous grants to men of Influence in several States & even to Members of Congress.

Mr

Mr. Livermore & myself no doubt will concur in the proper plan to avoid the danger arising from these & other quarters. The only plausible argument in favour of determining the question of Independence is, that this is not simply a dispute between New York & New Hampshire but between them and a people claiming to be independent of both. The answer to this is simple & plain. Viz. That New Hampshire & New York both by ancient & modern determination join upon each other of course no independent State can possibly exist between them & their claim of Independence can no more operate to alter the mode of Trial pointed out in the Confederation than if Massachusetts & New Hampshire both laid claim to the County of Essex & the inhabitants were to declare themselves independent of both, here the first step should be to settle the dispute between the States & if it was determined to appertain to Mass^{a} no other question would be necessary — besides if we admit for a moment the possibility of its being Independent we declare it out of the Union & oust ourselves of any Jurisdiction, as we have nothing to do with more than thirteen States, a fourteenth would have a right to deny the Jurisdiction of Congress which it seems Vermont has already done. The safest ground therefore for New Hampshire is to trust that as there is no intermediate spot between New York & New Hampshire & that Congress have included Vermont within the limits of the thirteen

United States, Congress ought to determine to which agreeable to the rules laid down in the Confederation

I confess myself astonished at the proceedings of Vermont & more so at the conduct of the inhabitants in our Counties. I am unwilling to believe them influenced by the British, but a variety of circumstances have almost confirmed me in this opinion.

I suppose whatever can be done here will be done in a week or fortnight at farthest. The Commissioners will no doubt meet at Springfield or Hartford where the Dittes will be discussed & the right determined of course my attendance here will be no longer necessary on that account. I wish therefore that Mr. Gilman may be directed to set out to relieve me immediately as my domestic concerns will oblige me to set out perhaps before his arrival. Should the State call on me to argue the cause before the Commissioners, I shall attend with pleasure.

I have the honor to be with the most perfect esteem Dear Sir, your most obdt Servt

Jno Sullivan

Honble Meshech Weare Esqr.

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237.101

To the Honourable the committee of the State of New Hampshire 13 July 1781

We the subscribers holding ourselves as good subjects of of the State of New Hampshire are now perplexed and vexed. A number of designing men as we apprehend who with a design to destroy the quiet & peace not only of this Town but in all the Towns in the New Hampshire Grants on the east of the River have got commissioned by the Governor of the State of Vermont, both in the Civil and Military orders, and now require of us the most strictest obedience, which if we refuse we are punnished & dealt with according to their laws whose Jurisdiction and Authority we deny and humbly pray for your protection and assistance in defending ourselves

Hinsdale July ye 13. 1781

Oliver Doolittle	Ephraim Eton
Daniel Shattuck	Elisha Belding
Lep[t] Richmond	Uriel Evans
John Peacock	John Evans
David Bishop	Nathaniel Collen
James Peacock	Amasa Burt
Gershein Densmore	
William Flagg	Remembrance Wright
Bart. Grandey	Asa Flagg
Joshua Frost	Cyrus Shattuck

177 Hatfield

Nathl Sanger
Hall Bartlett
Silas Barret
Eldad Evans
Philip Berrch
Gideon Shattuck
Mahepeace Shattuck
Jonathan Berret
Aaron Wright
John his + Flagg mark
Darius Wright
Ivory Doyle
Oliver Smith
Jedediah Smith

237:103

Philadelphia 17th July 1781

Sir,

The affair of Vermont is not yet decided — I expect by next Post we shall be able to forward you the result of Congress — I take the Liberty of enclosing you the paper of this day & have the honor to be with much Esteem Sr

Sir, your most Obedt Servt.
Jno Sullivan

Hon. Meshech Weare, Esqr

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237:104

Keene Augt 7. 1781

Gentlemen,

I am informed that you have recd some late intelligence from Genl. Sullivan respecting the New Hampshire Grants — if it is any thing favourable to the friends of N. Hampshire I wish ~~you~~ it may be published & sent to us by the next Post, for we are in a very distressing and dangerous situation, and need every possible encouragement & assistance to enable us to support the rights of N. Hampshire against the rapacious claims of Vermont. They have by a Resolve of their General Court appointed and authorised a Committee to take the Records of the Court of Common Pleas in this County, and have ordered the Clerk to deliver them up for the use of (what they call) the County of Washington — They have laid a tax of 10/ Silver money upon every hundred Acres of land, and are making hasty preperation to collect it — They have commissioned Judges for their County Court, which is to be held at Keene the 14th day of August inst. and I suppose will proceed to do business under Vermont, unless prevented by New Hampshire. In this critical juncture I have to ask your advice & direction, and hope you will bear us in mind, and not forsake us in our distress. I am, Gentlemen, with much Respect your Humble Servant

940 Timothy Ellis

By the United States in Congress assembled August 7th. 1781.

Whereas the States of New Hampshire and New York have submitted to Congress the decision of the disputes between them and the people inhabiting the New Hampshire Grants on the west side of Connecticut River called the State of Vermont concerning their respective claims of jurisdiction over the said territory, and have been heard thereon, And whereas the people aforesaid claim and exercise the powers of a sovreign, independent State +++++ and have requested to be admitted into the Federal Union of the United States of America in order thereto and that they may have an opportunity to be heard in vindication of their said claim

Resolved, That a Comtee of five be appointed to confer with such person or persons as may be appointed by the people residing on the New Hampshire Grants on the west side of Connecticut River ~~or by their~~ or by their Representative Body respecting their claim to be an independent State, and on what terms it may be proper to admit them into the Federal Union of these States in case the United States in Congress assembled shall determine to recognize their Independence and thereof make report. And it is hereby recommended to the people of the territory aforesaid or their representatives body to appoint an agent or agents to repair immediately to Philadelphia with full powers and instructions to confer with

the

the said committee on the matters aforesaid and on behalf of the said people to agree upon & ratify terms & articles of Union and Confederation with the United State of America in case they shall be admitted into the Union — And the said committee are hereby instructed to give notice to the agents of the States of New Hampshire and New York to be present at the conference aforesaid —

Resolved, That in case Congress shall recognize the independence of the said people of Vermont they will consider all the lands belonging to New Hampshire and New York respectively without the limits of Vermont aforesaid, as coming within the mutual guarantee of territory contained in the articles of Confederation and that the United States will accordingly guarantee such lands and the jurisdiction over the same against any claims or encroachments from the inhabitants of Vermont aforesaid —

August 8th 1781 —

Congress proceeded to the election of a Comtee of five to confer with such person or persons as may be appointed by the people residing on the New Hampshire grants for the purposes mentioned in the aforegoing resolutions —

The members chosen Mr Bondinot, Mr. Van-Dyke, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Montgomery, Mr. Randolph

Extract from the minutes

Geo Bond. Dep.y Sec.y

237:106

Philadelphia Augt. 21st 1781.

Dear Sir,

A comtee of Vermont has been here by an appointmt. in June to unite their State with the United States and to sit in Congress. They knew nothing of the resolution of the 7th Augt until their arrival in this City. After sundry meneuvers Congress informed them by a Resolution yesterday (Augt. 20th) that it would be an indispensable preliminary to their independence and being admitted into the Union, that they relinquish all pretentions east of the west banks of Connecticut River &c.

The committee will return home to consult their constituents.

The enclosed paper will give good news.

I am Sir, Your most obt Servant

Samuel Livermore

Hon. President Weare

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To the Honble the Comtee of Safety of the
State of New Hampshire

Gentlemen,

Doubtless the State of Vermont is the subject of much conversation with you as well as in the other parts of the Continent, but we are uncertain whether you have obtained some intelligence which we imagin of great importance — we take this opportunity to state a few facts for your consideration

The State of Vermont (as it is called) has settled a Cartel with the Enemy in Canada & the unjust basis upon which it is founded gives us reason to believe that no authority, but that of Vermont was privy to the same —

This new modeled Cartel according to the best information we can get allows the British to receive a soldier for a citizen — This being the case the inhabitants on our frontiers are bargained to the enemy at a very cheap rate & no doubt will be plundered as it will be easier for the enemy to obtain their prisoners by plundering the inhabitants, them by getting our soldiers by the fate of war.

Since this Cartel was settled, a proclamation has been issued, whereby, not only all prisoners in the Country that have a mind to return to the British, are encouraged to make the best of their way to Bennington but that all those who have deserted into the country should to the utmost of their power be apprehended & conveyed there in order

9 L D

to

to be exchanged. Many of the above are settled, and have taken up arms for the Country, and are our fast friends, but are carried off by force.

Two prisoners captured at Ticonderoga made their escape from the care of one Watson at Hartford & on their way from Coos to Canada were taken up & sent back, but

P. S. There have this instant come in, since the writing the above, six deserters from Canada, who declare there was a report in Canada that the inhabitents taken from Vermont & confined in Goal there, were to be exchanged for prisoners taken at the point of the Sword — and that said inhabitants nobly scorned so base a proposal & said they had rather lay in Goal a year longer than to be exchanged on such a footing, as it would open so wide a Door for the plundering the inhabitants of the Frontiers — So noble a spirit ought to raise a blush on the assumed authority of Vermont

N. B. It would be agreeable that our names might not be exposed before necessity may require it.

To the Honourable the Council & House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Assembly convened. 25 Aug. 1781

The Memorial of Nathaniel Bingham, Michael Cresey, Willm Lee & James Robinson = Gentlemen, It is with the utmost regret that we make mention of the deplorable situation into which we are fallen by the madness & folly of many of our people in these parts in thinking to revolt from the State of New Hampshire in such an unjust & unrighteous a manner as has been attempted. Your honours are sensible that our confusion is great & that it is very difficult to know what to do at a time of such disorder. We know it has been commonly reported that this town has refused all orders from the State of New Hampshire & that they are unanimous in the revolt from you altho there is a considerable number of faithfull friends to you among us who have used their utmost endeavour to pacify the people & to make them sensible of their folly in such proceedings but being so unhappy as to have the most of our town & military officers on that side of the question were not able to stop their proceedings as a town nevertheless we have the happiness to inform your Honours that on a motion made to know how many of the inhabitants disapproved of the measures taken eight of the inhabitants, namely Nathl Bingham, Michael Cresey, Willm Lee, James Robinson, Phinehas

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Phinehas Brown, Elisha Rockwood, Theodorus Bringhem, Willm Symonds, Thos Harris, Thos. Chamberlain, Saml Nichols, Henry Cresey, John Darling, Ezekiel Davis, John Peirce, Jona Hutchens, Arthur Latham, Jacob Winslow, Moses Grey, Jewet Darling, Willm Dodge, Ephm Russell, Benja Coburn, Joseph Prentice, Abner Harris Jr, Israel Johnson, Andrew Hastings, Ebenr Safford, Nathan Thomas, Josiah Hastings, Noah Emmons, Jona Farr 2d, John Cobleigh, Oliver Brigham, Jona Cresey, Joseph Titus, Peter Wheeler, Jona Cresey Jr, Willm Coburn, Eleazer Stoddard, Samuel Stoddard, Moses Cresey, Zadock Barret, Joseph Wheeler, Amos Streeter, Benja Wheeler, Aaron Smith, Isaac Barratt Thos. Holmes, Moses Smith, Archibald Robertson, Willm Robertson, Joell Streeter, Joseph Hartwell, Jona Farwell, Benja Farwell, Willm Read, Amos Blodget, Levi Farwell, Oliver Farwell, Willm Farwell, Elisha Walton, Saml Walker, Silas Richardson, Josiah Yates, Philip Lock, Eliphalet Wood, Abraham Stearns, Abner Allen, Increase Daniels, John Daniels, John Grandy, Willm Kimball, Benja Parker, Adam Bartlett, Zadock Bartlett, John Grandy Jun, Parker Grandy, Eli Partridge, Eleazer Jackson voluntarily signed the following declaration declaring it to be their real sentiments: (viz) That Whereas it has been reported that the people in Chesterfield are unanimously agreed in the Union taking place between the State of Vermont & the Grants on this side of the River this is to acquaint the world

that we whose names are under written are of opinion that the measures already taken are illegal & unjust as they are conducted & we are altogether against those measures unless they are carried on with more general satisfaction to the United States & to the State of New Hampshire in particular whose subjects we profess to be till we are legally set off by the United States

Chesterfield August 23d 1781.

And whereas there are many illegal & unjust measures carrying on against the friends of New Hampshire & safety of the State as we Judge we are therefore at a loss to know what to do our Eyes are therefore unto you as our Patrons confiding entirely in your wisdom to direct us in our duty we therefore beg your advice & protection & conclude by subscribing ourselves your loyal & affectionate subjects

Nath.l Bingham
Michael Cresey
William Lee
Thos James Robertson

Chesterfield August 25th. 1781.

Head Quarters, Continental Village
Sept 17 – 1781

Sir,

I have received undoubted intelligence from Canada, that the enemy have for sometime been building canoes and small batteaux at St Johns, baking hard bread at Montreal, and forwarding it to the same place – and this morning I learn a Brigade of Troops have arived at St, Johns from Quebec –

This renders it very apparent that the enemy have some designs on the frontiers some where – From the reported size of the small craft, they seem calculated for the creeks & rivers towards the settlements on the head of Connecticut River, rather than to crofs the Lakes. In that case the western militia of your State can best lend aid. I submit to you the cautioning them to be in readineſs for the purpose –

I have sent a reinforcement to Albany, but the importance of the Post in the High-lands, and present situation of the Army are such as forbid my making any considerable detatchments to a distance, I constrain me to request that the number of militia called for from your State, in

this

His Excellency last letter, may be sent on immediately — They may if not already on their march this way, rendezvous at Charlestown 1804 — and remain there / or, in case the enemy should attack the settlements above, march to their aid) until further orders, — In such case please order the Spring Commissary in your State to see ~~that~~ that they are served with provisions, while detained in the State

I have the honor to be
With great regard
Your Honors
Most Obedient Servant
W Heath
M General

P. S. In case the Militia rendezvous at Charlestown please direct the Commanding Officer to report to me his name, rank & the number of Militia with him.

I am just informed that a Fleet of about 40 Sail appeared in the Sound off Huntington the 15th standing eastward — but whether they had troops on board or were a Wood Fleet, is not known

Hon. Mshech Weare Esquire N. H.

A true copy — Attest Joseph Persons D Secy.

I A, B, do solemnly swear by the great name of the Everlasting God, that I will do my duty as a good subject of the State of New Hampshire — That I will to the utmost of my power & ability discloe and make known / to some Officer or Magistrate acting for & under the Authority of the United States or some one of them) all ~~Plots~~ Plots & Conspiracies which I know or may come to my knowledge against this State or the United States of America or any one of them as independent of and in opposition to the King of Great Britain — And that I will not directly or indirectly aid, assist, advise or give intelligence to any person or persons acting under the Authority of the said King of Great Britain relative to his or their endeavouring to bring the United States or any one of them under the Dominion of the said King — And that I take & subscribe this oath without any mental reservation or equivocation what soever and mean honestly & faithfully to perform the same — so help me God —

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At a meeting of sundry persons from ten of the towns in the County of Cheshire on the New Hampshire Grants east of Connecticut River. at Keene ye 21st of September 1781. Viz. Keene, Swanzey, Richmond, Winchester, Chesterfield, Westmoreland, Walpole, Surry, Gilson and Alstead. Benjamin Bellows Esqr. in the Chair — after mature and deliberate consideration of the disturbances and confusion which have arisen on account of the right of jurisdiction over said grants; It was very unanimously agreed by the Persons convened as aforesaid that some person be appointed to wait on the Hon^ble Committee of Safety, at Eyota, as soon as possible, and to lay before them the state of this County respecting the aforesaid dispute, and in particular that those persons who adhere to the late unhappy Union of the New Hampshire Grants are either ignorantly or willfully blinded in regard to the construction they put upon the Resolves of the Hon^ble Congress of the 7th & 8th of August last which serves in some towns to confirm some persons, who are for the Union in their former opinion and some who were not fully established here (by some means or other) since the said Resolves become publick) consented to the Union, and some who are attached to New Hampshire say the Congress have not determined whether we shall belong to Vermont or not, that the difficulties in this quarter are rather likely to be increased thereby diminished by what is already done to

to remove the same — It was also agreed that the Honble Committee of Safety be requested (if they think proper) to send printed copies of the aforesaid resolves to the several towns upon the Grants east of Connecticut River, at least to those in the County of Cheshire, with their explanation, advice &c. and that they acquaint Congress with the aforesaid promises if they shall think it advisable.

The above was unanimously Voted,

Voted, That Capt. Burt be empowered to wait upon the Committee of Safety with the above proceedings

Benja Bellows Chairman

To the Honble Committee of Safety Exeter

237:116

Philadelphia Octo. 2nd 1781

Dear Sir,

I am informed that a Comtee of ~~Congress~~ our House and Council have proceeded to Connecticut River to treat with the people concerning their attachment to Vermont, or something to that effect. I did not hear the names of the Comtee. However I hope the measure will be attended with good consequences. That Comtee will doubtless be returned before this reaches you. I should be glad to be immediately informed of the result of their proceedings; as it may relate to the subject before Congress and strongly influence their resolutions. 'Tis probable the Comtee of Vermont will be here before the last of Octo. for a final decision of their affair. I am very anxious to get this matter settled and to return home — I shall presume the State will not be against my returning when this business is finished. I long to see the County of Grafton active and our ~~State~~ whole internal policy settled

I am Sir, your most obedient
humble Servant
Samuel Livermore.

Hon. President Weare

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237: 117

State of New Hampshire
In Committee of Safety Exeter
Sept^r 2^d 1781 –

Sir,

Inclosed is a Copy of a Letter from Maj^r Gen^l Heath – in consequence of which we have ordered the Militia raised by the State commanded by Colo. Runnels to rendezvous at Charlestown as soon as possible – You will see by said letter that the Gen^l thinks proper that the issuing Commissary in this State should be ordered to serve them with provisions – but the committee not knowing who is issuing Commissary, nor the situation of Continental Stores at Charlestown are desirous if there is any person appointed that you would inform him of the matter, if not that you would undertake the issuing said provision – in case you cannot – that you would appoint some proper person to do it – if there is no continental stores you will please to call on Francis Blood Esqr for supplies of Beef and Bread from time to time as you may stand in need of as we have wrote to him to furnish you with supplies for that purpose –

As you are Deputy Quarter Master we expect

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you

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you will do all in your power to
furnish Officers & men with Barracks,
Fuel, & Cooking Utensils
By order of the Committee
Josiah Bartlett
Chairman

To Col°. Samuel Hunt

P. S. As these men are raised at the
expence of the United States you will
receipt for any provisions &c which you
may receive from Esqr Blood in the
same manner you have done for the
Beef Cattle, & spare any salted Beef or
any other provision or Stores which you
may have belonging to the United States
that may be necessary for them —
If there is not any Ammunition belonging
to the United States which these men
may obtain, you will see that they
are furnished from the Stores belonging
to this State and call on any person
or persons who may have charge of the
same for that purpose —
Please to write us soon as possible
J. Bartlett
Chairman

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State of New
Hamp^{r} } In Committee of Safety Oct^{r} 6th 1781.

Sir,

Your Letter of the 2nd Instant we have received & observed the contents — have given orders to the Board of War to send a Waggon (with 300^{lb} Powder — 600^{lb} Lead or Balls & 1000 Flints) to Charlestown as soon as possible, and to deliver said articles to you for the use of Colo Runnels's Regiment, which you will deliver them at such times & in such quantities as you may think proper — With respect to Barracks, Fuel, Cooking Utensils &c. if you cannot supply them in your Official capacity, must request you would do the same in the best way you can on account of the State for which you will be paid — doubt not you will do every thing in your power for supplying provisions &c

I am

Your most obed^{t} Serv^{t}
Josiah Bartlett
Chairman

Col^{o} Samuel Hunt

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part of the State of New Hampshire which lies adjoining on the east of Connecticut River, have driven many of the good and peaceable citizens of those Towns, to sustain, on account of their inflexible attatchment to the laws and government of the State of New Hampshire, and the stratagems practiced by those ringleaders, and their emissaries, to alienate the affections of honest and well meaning subjects of said State of New Hampshire.— to ~~induce~~ induce them to renounce their allegiance, and to strengthen the hands of faction; being matter of such notoriety, your memorialist humbly concives the Hon'ble Committee would esteem a rehearsal of them altogether needless.— However, the memorialist cannot think himself censurable when he begs leave just to observe that the sentiments of the good people in many of those unhappy Towns, cannot be determined by the votes in their Town meetings, as none are allowed to vote but such as solemnly renounce all dependence on, or political connection with the State of New Hampshire, and take an oath to support the government and laws of said Vermont; so that ten men having received the Sop will carry on the business of the meeting, when perhaps three times that number who have not the mark of the —— and from principle cannot join the faction, are obliged to stem mute; and in cases where a large minority, if allowed a suffrage, would appear in the negative, the proceedings are entered unanimous; by means whereof most of the Town officers chosen at such meetings are from among those who are aliens from the

commonwealth of New Hampshire, and who endeavour by every possible means to prevent the knowledge, and execution of the laws of New Hampshire among the people

That the memorialist and others, have patiently endured suffering, persecutions, & new coined insults and indignities, not to be described, firmly relying, that the authority and government of the State of New Hampshire, would not suffer the State to be dismembered, her authority trampled on, the laws contemned, or her devoted citizens to perish under the tyranny of faction, for want of her succour, and the due execution of her laws— And what has added much to the confidence of the unhappy sufferers hath been the spirited and unequivocal resolves of the General Assembly of said State, especially that passed on the 20th of June last, (viz) "That this State will exert themselves to preserve their jurisdiction unimpaired, and to give effectual speedy support, protection and succour to the faithfull, and distreped subjects thereof."

That the memorialist flatters himself both he, and his fellow sufferers have some idea of the compleated, and almost invincible embarrasments, which have hitherto attended the due execution of the laws in the County of Grafton, for the protection of its inhabitants.— But as the oppression of those usurpers hath carried to such a ~~height~~ height, your Honors candor will forbid attributing to a petulant disposition in the memorialist, or his want of confidence in the authority of the State; when he ~~assures~~ assures your Honors he can no

longer

longer endure the torture of such accumulated distresp.

That on the morning of the 29th of September last, your memorialist being in the peace of God and the good people of the State about his lawfull employment, travelling in the public road, from his House to a remote part of his farm, when on a sudden he saw a Banditte of about a dozen men armed with guns, and other offensive weapons, gathered in a riotous manner, near a barn in the possession of one Samuel Titus, when one of the ringleaders of the riot, steped forth from among the rest, and seized the horse on which your memorialist was riding and commanded the memorialist forthwith to join in the riot; to turn John Cresey, John Cressy Jr, and families out of their houses, to perish in the wilderness: but the memorialist obstinately refused to comply; and after some words had paped, it was proposed and voted by the rabble, that the memorialist should be confined; whereupon Eleazer Wheelock, James Wheelock, Ebenezer Cleveland, Absalom Peters, Asa Bailey, and others, immediately, with force and arms in a high-handed riotous manner made a violent assault on the body of your memorialist and made great efforts to bind him on his horse — By this time the Mob was in a tumult, some accusing the memorialist of speaking against the rioters, and saying that he would oppose their lawless proceedings — others that he was against the authority of Vermont — and others that he was an enemy to the College Party — while some where pulling the horse by the bridle — others whipping — some yelling — others firing guns — thus in triumph they carried off the

the unhappy victim of their malice. — And after carrying the memorialist about in the manner aforesaid, with threats, insults, and abuses from place to place, till near the setting of the Sun, when the said Eleazer Wheelock with some other of the rioters, seized violently on the body of s^d memorialist, and by force dragged him toward the house of one Noyce, who was among the gang, whereby the memorialist was most grieviously injured both in body and mind. That the said rioters then, and at divers other times, before & since uttered and declared such threatning and menacing words and speaches, of, and concerning your memorialist, as that he is in great anxiety of mind, about the present unsafe situation of his person, family and property; and unless some speedy and effectual measures are ~~taken~~ adopted for their relief, he with many others have the gloomy prospect of being driven to the sad alternative of submitting to the mandates of a lawless banditti on the one hand, or on the other, forsaking their dear earned habitations, to seek an asylum. ———

Your memorialist begs leave further to suggest as his opinion, that most of the political difficulties subsisting in the Counties of Cheshire and Grafton, originate from the machinations of certain subtle tories, joined by those who have ye conducting of the Indian school at Hanover and their emissaries, to promote the views of British Administration, rather than any attatchment they have to support, the pretended State of Vermont.

Wherefore your memorialist in behalf

of

of himself and his fellow sufferers, humbly prays the interposition of the Hon^ble Committee, that you will take the premises under your wise consideration, and issue orders to such officers in said County of Grafton, as are willing to exercise the powers of their respective offices which they now hold under the State of New Hempshire; to exert the same in protecting those who conduct themselves as good subjects of said State, in their persons & property, from the insults and abuses of Mobs, Riots, or lawless individuals; and from the execution of any laws, or the exercise of any other authority, than that which is under the government and people of the State of New Hampshire; or relieve the memorialist, and others in such way and manner as your Honors in great wisdom shall judge most conducive to the public tranquility. —

And your memorialist as in duty bound shall ever pray

John Clark

Exeter 12th of October 1781

237:123

Londaff October 3d 1781

We the inhabitants of the s^d Londaff having a laudable attatchment to the State of New Hampshire and likewise to the thirteen United States of America, and as we live where Vermont claims jurisdiction have received so many insults from that quarter and are now in very great fear of being insulted by them and ~~especially~~ especially from the emisaries of the college do humbly petetion to the ~~Hon^r~~ ~~&c~~ Honorable Court of New Hampshire for aid and protection against the insults and abuses of the Vermonters and especially the emisaries of the College which your petitioners in duty bound shall ever pray

John Clark Jr
John Clark
James Crispy
Ebenezer Clark
Gotham Clark
William Churchil
Nathaniel Ray

17th Oct. 1781

The Committee to whom was refered the report of a Comtee on certain Letters & papers relative to the people inhabiting the district of Country commonly known by the name of New Hampshire Grants do report the following Resolution to be adopted by Congress

Congress having resolved on the 7th day of August last* that in case they should recognize the Independence of the people of Vermont, they would consider all the lands belonging to New Hampshire & New York respectively lying without the limits of Vermont as they are as coming within the mutual guarantee of Territory contained in the Articles of Confederation; and that the United States will accordingly guarantee such lands and the jurisdiction over the same against any claims or encroachments from the inhabitants of Vermont aforesaid.

And Congress having on the 20th day of the same month required (as an indispensible preliminary to the recognition of the Independence of the people inhabiting the Territory aforesd and their admission into the Federal Union) the explicit relinquishment of all demands of lands or Jurisdiction on the east side of the west bank of Connecticut River, and on the west side of a line beginning at the North West corner of the State of Massachusetts, thence running twenty miles east of Hudsons River, so far as the said River runs North easterly in its general course; thence by the west bounds of Townships granted by the late government of New Hampshire to the River running from South Bay to Lake Champlain; thence along the said River to Lake Champlain; thence along the Waters

Waters of Lake Champlain to the Latitude of forty five degrees North, excepting a Neck of Land between Missisko Bay and the Waters of Lake Champlain

And the People inhabiting the Territory aforesaid, not having as yet made the relinquishment of [illegible] as above required, and attempting since the date of the above Resolutions to extend & establish their jurisdiction over part of the Lands guaranteed to the States of New York & New Hampshire as aforesaid; and it being indespensibly necessary to bring all disputes respecting the Jurisdiction of the people residing within the Territory aforesaid to a speedy issue

Resolved, That the district of Territory commonly known by the name of the New Hampshire Grants, by whatsoever name it may be called, is and shall be bounded westward by a line begining at the North West corner of the State of Massa[illegible] thence running Northward twenty miles East of Hudsons River so far as sd, River runs North Easterly in its general course, thence to the West boundary line of the Townships granted by the late government of N. Hampshire; thence northward along the s[illegible] west boundary line, to the River running from South Bay to Lake Champlain; thence along the s[illegible] River to Lake Champlain, thence along the Waters of Lake Champlain to Latitude forty five Degrees North, including a Neck of land between the Missisko Bay and the Waters of Lake Champlain; thence it shall be bounded North by Latitude forty five Degrees North & Eastward by the

west Bank of Connecticut River from forty five
Degrees North to the Northern boundary of the State of Mass.
and southward by the Northern boundary of the State of Massachusetts
of Massa. to the s.d West Bank of Connecticut River
to the North west corner of Massachu.s aforementioned

Resolved, That in case the inhabitants residing within the limits of.d within one Calender Month from the delivery of a certified copy of these Resolutions, by the Commissioner herein after mentioned, to Thomas Whittenden Esqr. of the Town of Bennington within the limits of.d from the time of the said Commis.rs leaving such certified copy at the usual place of residence of the s.d Thomas Whittenden Esqr. — shall by some authenticated Act recognize the last above described boundaries to be the limits and extent of their Claim both of Jurisdiction & Territory, and shall accede to the Articles of Confederation and perpetual Union between the States of New Hampshire, Massachus. R Island & Providence Plantations Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pensyl.a, Delaware Maryland, Virginia, N. Carolina, S. Carolina, & Georgia as agreed to in Congress on the 15.th day of November 1777. and shall thereupon appoint Delegates on their behalf with full powers, instructions & positive orders immediately to repair to Congress, and to sign the s.d Articles of Confederation and afterwards to represent them in the U. S. in Congress as.d then said Delegates shall be admitted to sign the same and thereupon the inhabitants of the above described District shall be acknowledged a free, Sovereign and Independent State, by whatsoever name they shall chose to be called, and shall be considered

as a component part of the Federal Union, and entitled to the advantages thereof—

Resolved, That in case the s^d Inhabitants within the above described District, do not desist from attempting to exercise Jurisdiction over the lands guaranteed to New Hampshire & New York as af^d and shall not within the time limited as af^d comply with the Terms specified in the foregoing Resolutions, Congress will consider such neglect or refusal as a manifest indication of designs hostile to these U.S. and that all pretentions and applications of the s^d inhabitants heretofore made for admission into the Federal Union, were fallacious and delusive; and that thereupon the forces of these States shall be employed against the said inhabitants within the district afor^d accordingly— And Congress will consider all the lands within said Territory to the Eastward of a line drawn ~~from~~ along the summit of a ridge of Mountains or heights of land extending from South to North thro'out the s^d Territory between Connecticut River on the East & Hudson River & Lake Champlain on the West as guaranteed to New Hampshire under the Articles of Confederation: And all the lands within said Territory to the Westward of said Line, as guaranteed to New York under the Articles of Confederation provided always that Congress will ~~continue~~ consider any other partition which, shall hereafter by an agreement between the Legislatures of New Hampshire & New York

New York, be made between their respective States concerning the Territory aforesaid as guaranteed to them according to such agreement, saving in either case all rights accruing to the State of Massachusetts or any other State under the Articles of Confederation aforesaid And provided always that for the more effectually quieting the minds of the inhabitants aforesaid the States of N. Hampshire & New York respectively shall pass Acts of Indemnity & oblivion in favour of all such persons, as have at any time previous to the passing such acts, acted under the authority of Vermont, so called, in any manner whatsoever, upon such persons submitting to the Jurisdiction of said States respectively. And provided always that the said States of New York & New Hampshire respectively, do pass Acts confirming & establishing the Titles of all persons whatever, to such lands as they do now actually occupy & possess within the limits of the District aforesaid under whatever Title the same may be held, either from N. York, N. Hampshire or Vermont so called, and also for confirming & establishing the Titles of all persons whatever, to such lands within the district aforesaid as they may ~~Hereto~~ may be entitled to under grants from N. York, New Hampshire or Vermont so called according to the priority of such grants in point of time - excepting in such cases where the lands are in the actual occupancy & possession of the claimants as mentioned in the proviso above said - But inasmuch as some persons claiming in right of Grants made under the authority of the

District

District or Territory called Vermont and not actually occupying the same may be deprived thereof by the interference of other prior Grants —

Resolved, That in case the partition aforesaid shall take place, any person claiming and deprived as aforesaid his or her assignee or representative shall receive full compensation in lands or otherwise to be provided by Congress —

Resolved, That it be and it is hereby earnestly recommended to the States of New Hampshire & New York respectively to pass Acts of oblivion & Indemnity in favour of all such persons residing without the limits of the district above described, who shall hereafter ~~after~~ heretofore have taken part with the inhabitants residing within the same against the Governments of either of those States; upon such persons quietly and peaceably submitting themselves to the Government & Jurisdiction of such State respectively to which they belong

Resolved, That in case of the neglect or refusal of the inhabitants residing within the District aforesaid to comply with the terms prescribed in the resolutions aforesaid That the Commander in Chief of the Armies of the U. S. do without delay or further order, carry these resolutions as far as they respect his Department into full execution.

Resolved, That a Commissr be appointed on the part of these U. S. whose duty it shall be, immediatly to repair to the District aforesaid and deliver a certified

Copy of these Resolutions to Thomas Chittenden Esqr. of the Town of Bennington or leave such Copy at his usual place of ~~abode~~ Residence, & also to enforce on the Inhabitants of the Sd District the necessity of their complying with the Terms above presented by Congress, or submitting themselves peaceably to the Jurisdiction of the States of New Hampshire & New York agreeably to the above Resolutions —

State of Vermont

Charlestown 16th October 1781.

The Governor and Council having joined the General Assembly in a Committee of the whole, to take into consideration the report of the Honorable Jonas Fay, Ira Allen and Baraleel Woodward Esquires, who were appointed by the Legislature of this State, in the month of June last, to repair to the American Congress, with powers to propose to, and receive from, them terms for an Union of this ------ with the United States &c.

His Excellency Thomas Chittenden Esq. in the Chair.

The said Agents laid before the Committee the following papers, which were read, by the Secretary, in their order, viz.

1st A copy of their Letter to the President of Congress, of the 14th of August last, inclosing a duplicate of their Commission.

2d The Resolutions of Congress of the 7th and 8th of August last,

3d Brigadier General Bellows and associates petition to New Hampshire, 25th May 1781.

4th Petetion of the Selectmen of Swanzy, to New Hampshire, June 9th 1781.

5th Honble Meshech Weare Esqrs. Letter, ~~dated~~ to be laid before Congress, dated 20th June 1781

6th Messrs Dwene and Ezra L. Hommedieu's Memorial and prayer to Congress, of the third day of August 1781.

together

together with Ira Allen and Stephen R. Bradley
Esqrs. remonstrance to Congress, dated September 22d 1780.
8th Resolves of Congress, dated 17th of August 1781.
9th Written Proposals to Committee of Congress,
dated August 18th 1781
10th Question proposed to the Agents of Vermont, by
the Committee of Congress, August 18th 1781.
11th The foregoing questions, with the Answers
annexed
12th Resolutions of Congress, of the 20th August 1781.
The further consideration of the report being refered;
Adjourned, till tomorrow morning 9 oclock
October 17th met according to adjournment.
The committee proceded to the consideration of
the Resolutions of Congress, of the 20th day of August
aforesaid, and other papers mentioned in the report
of said Agents, and after some time spent therein;
Resolved, That in the opinion of this Committee,
the Legislature cannot comply with the resolutions
last referred to, without destroying the foundation
of the present universal harmony and agreement,
that subsists in this State, and a violation of
solemn compact, entered into by Articles of Union
and Confederation
The further consideration of the report
being postponed Adjourned to 9 oClock
tomorrow morning
October 18th. The Committee resumed the further
consideration of the said report

Resolved,

Resolved, That inasmuch as the Resolutions of Congress of the 7th and 20th of August last, did by no means comport with, but entirely preclude any proposition made by our Agents, it is therefore the opinion of this Committee, that the propositions made by our Agents to the Committee of Congress on the 18th of August last, ought not, in future, to be considered as binding, on the part of Vermont.

Resolved, That it be, and is hereby recommended to the Legislature of this State, that their thanks be returned to their Honorable Agents, for their good services in behalf of this State, on the buisneſs of their late Miſion to the Congress of the United States of America.—

And this Committee recommend to the Legislature of this State to remain firm in the principles on which the State of Vermont first aſsumed Government, and to hold the Articles of Union which connect each part of the State with the other, inviolate; and for the further information and satisfaction of the Honorable Congress, and the World, do recommend to the Legislature to publish the following Articles, which respect the admission of Vermont into the Federal Union viz.

Art. 1st "That the Independence of Vermont be held sacred, and that no Members of the Legislature shall give his vote, or otherwise use his endeavours, to obtain any Act or Resolution of Assembly, that shall endanger the existence, independence and well being of said State, by referring its independency to the arbitrament of any ~~person~~ power"

287 Art 2nd

Art. 2d. That whenever this State becomes united with the American States, and there shall then be any disputes between this, and any of the United States, respecting boundary lines, the Legislature of the State of Vermont, will then (as they have ever proposed) submit to Congress, or such other tribunal as may be mutually agreed upon, for the settlement of such disputes".

And that the impartial World may be fully convinced of the good and laudable disposition of Vermont, and of her readiness to comply with any reasonable proposal, for the adjustment of the disputes, respecting boundary lines, between this and the neighbouring States of New Hampshire and New York; this Committee further recommend to the Legislature, to make the following proposals to the said States of New Hampshire and New York respectively -

That whereas disputes have arisen between the States of New Hampshire and Vermont, relative to Jurisdiction, boundary lines &c. the Legislature of Vermont being willing and desirous as much as in them lies, to promote unity, and good accord - between the two States, do propose to the State of New Hampshire, that all matters relating to the aforesaid dispute, shall be submitted to five or more judicious, unprejudiced persons; who shall be mutually agreed on, elected and chosen by a committee of Legislature, on the part of each State respectively; and that the States of New Hampshire and Vermont, do pledge their faith to each other, that the decision of said

by the persons

by the persons so elected, being made up in writing, signed by the President of such Commissioners, and delivered to the Secretary of each State respectively, shall be held sacredly binding on each of the said States of New Hempshire and Vermont forever. And that proposals of the same Tenor, be also made to the Legislature of New York

And this Committee do further recommend, that nine persons be elected Commissioners by the Legislature on the part of Vermont, to treat with Commissioners to be elected on the part of New Hempshire, and New York respectively, for the adjusting the aforesaid jurisdictional boundary lines; and that they be commissioned by His Excellency the Governor, and the faith of this State be by him pledged, in behalf of the State, that the decision thus had, shall in future be held as sacredly binding, on the part of Vermont.

This Committee further recommend to the Legislature, the proceedings of this Committee be officially transmitted to the Congress of the United States; and that they be enclosed in a letter, under the signature of His Excellency the Governor, and directed to the President of Congress.

And this Committee do further advise the Legislature to recommend to the Authority, in every part of the State, to remain firm in the support of Government, and the punctual execution of the laws, notwithstanding the various measures taken to create

Divisions

Divisions and Discon.-

The Commissioners chosen for the above pupose, Phinehas Whiteside, Gideon Warren, Joseph Caldwell Esqrs. The Honble Elisha Payne and Daniel Jones Esqrs, Ezra Stiles Esq. The Honble Jonas Fay. Ira Allen and Peter Olcott Esqrs

Resolved, That it be an instruction to the said Commissioners, that they prepare and make the necessary defence in the premises; and that they introduce the said matter to New Hampshire and New York, in such way, as to them shall appear best..

19th October 1781

Voted, That this Committee be dissolved.

Bira Woodward Clk. of Committee

State of Vermont

In General Assembly Charlestown Octr 19th 1781.

The aforesaid report being read, and the question being put, it was unanimously approved and accepted.

Attest Roswell Hopkins Clerk

In Council 19th October 1781.

Read and concurred.

Attest Joseph Fay Secry.

30th October 1781.

The preceding is a true copy of an act of the Legislature of the State of Vermont, lodged in the Secretary's Office of the said State.

Mich Townsend Secry.

237:131

~~Charlestown October 22d 1781.~~

State of Vermont }
Washington ss } To the Constable of the Town of
Hinsdale in said County —— Greeting.
In the name and by the authority of the Free-
men of the State of Vermont you are hereby
commanded to summon Daniel Shattuck of
Hinsdale in our said County of Washington to
appear before the adjourned County Court, to be
holden at Charlestown on the last Tuesday of
~~Oct~~ November next, then and there to answer
to William Page of Charlestown in s^d County
in a plea of debt for that Shattuck, at Charlestown
aforesaid on the tenth day of August last, by
his writing obligatory, sealed with his seal, and
in Court to be produced bound himself to s^d Page
in the sum of Fifty ~~dollars~~ pounds Lawfull money
of s^d State to be paid to s^d Page on demand. yet
the said Shattuck tho' requested hath not paid
the same, but declines it, to the damage of the
s^d Page as he saith the sum of eighty pounds
for the recovery of which, with just costs he
brings this suit} Hereof fail not and make
return according to Law, Dated at Charlestown,
this twenty second day of October A. D 1781

Peleg Sprague. Clerk

(copy)

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237/133

Charlestown October 27th 1781

Sir,

The Commissioners appointed by the State of Vermont to negotiate and compleat the settlement of the boundary lines between that State and the States of New Hampshire and New York respectively agreeable to the resolutions of the Legislature of Vermont, beg leave herewith to transmit those resolutions together with a duplicate of their Commission for the consideration of the Legislature of New Hampshire.

The Commissioners are ready to attend the business of their appointment whenever they shall receive an answer in the premises

In behalf of the Commissioners
I am Sir,

Your most obedient
Humble Servent
Elisha Payne

Hon^ble Meshech Weare Esqr
President Council N. Hampshire

1781

His Excellency
Thomas Chittenden Esqr.
(L.S) Captain General, Governor, and Commander in
Chief in and over the State of Vermont.

To the Honorable Elisha Payne, Jonas Fay, Ira
Allen and Peter Olcott, Esqrs; Daniel Jones, Esqr; Colonel
Gideon Warren, Phinehas Whiteside Esqr; Colonel Joseph
Caldwell and Ezra Stiles Esqr, Greeting —

Agreeable to a Resolution of the Governor, Council
and House of ~~Representatives~~ Assembly at their Session held
at Charlestown this instant October, appointing
you Commissioners for and in behalf of the State
of Vermont to enter upon a Negociation for the
settlement and adjustment of the Boundary Lines,
as well between the State of New Hampshire and
Vermont as between the State of New York and
Vermont agreeable to your directions contained in
the Resolution aforesaid.

These are therefore, in the Name and
by the Authority of the Freemen of the State of
Vermont, to authorise and amply empower you
the said Elisha Payne, Jonas Fay, Ira Allen,
Peter Olcott, Daniel Jones, Gideon Warren, Phinehas
Whiteside, Joseph Caldwell and Ezra Stiles, or
any five of you the said Commissioners to compleat
and carry into execution the negociation and
Settlement of the said Boundary Lines of Jurisdiction
between the said States of New Hampshire and
New York with the said State of Vermont respectively

agreable

agreeable to said Resolutions —

And I do hereby pledge the Faith of the said State of Vermont, that the determinations had in the Premises shall be held sacredly binding on the part of Vermont.

In Testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my Hand, and caused the Seal of this State to be affixed, In Council, this 27th day of October Anno Domini, One thousand seven hundred & Eighty one — and in the 5th year of the Independence of this State.

Thos. Chittenden

By His Excellency's Command

Tho. Tolman Dep. Secry.

(Duplicate)

237:135

By His Excellency Thomas Chittenden, Esquire
Captain General, Governor and Commander in Chief
in and over the State of Vermont.

A Proclamation 27 Oct. 1781.

It having pleased the Supreme Governor of the Universe,
in the course of his Holy & Righteous Providence, to
give us, his people, reason to rejoice & give thanks in
the midst of his heavy Judgements with which we
are justly afflicted; We are under the strongest obligations
to devote our lives to his Glory & with due acknowledgement
to render Praises to his Name.

I have therefore thought fit, by and with the
advice of the Council, & at the request of the General
Assembly of this State, to appoint, and I do hereby
appoint, Thursday ye sixth day of December next,
to be observed & kept as a day of Public Thanksgiving
and Praise to Almighty God: And I do hereby call
upon & strictly require all Persons residing within this
State, of every Denomination, carefully to observe &
keep s^d day; that we may with united hearts & voices
gratefully acknowledge the beneficence and goodness
of Jehovah, in the repeated tokens of his mercy towards
us: — that he has preserved so many of our lives the
year past, and been graciously pleased to defend our
frontiers settlements, in the midst of a calamitous
war, and in so singular a manner granted success
to the American Arms, and their Allies, in every part,
both by Sea and Land: — that he has been pleased to
direct our Councils, and bless the administration of

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civil

Civil Government in this State, and preserved so much unity and peace amongst us: — that he has blest so many of us with health and safety in our dwellings: — that notwithstanding our sinfull provocations we are yet favoured with a preached Gospel, which manifests that he is yet waiting to be gracious unto us: — that he has smiled upon and blessed the labours of our hands and gave us so fruitfull a season with plentifull Harvests: — that he has filled our hearts with joy and gladness and crowned the year with his loveing kindness and tender mercies —

At the same time humbly to implore the Divine favor, that God in his mercy would continue those blessings we enjoy, and in his own time avert his heavy judgements and grant Peace to this land: that he would turn us from our evil ways, and cause pure and undefiled Religion to revive and flourish throughout this land: — the Gospel run and be glorified: that he would raise up and send forth faithfull labourers into his harvest, that the many destitute Congregations may be supplied with faithfull Ministers of Jesus Christ: — that in due time the just cause of this State may be fully acknowledged, when our Enemies shall be confounded when iniquity shall hide its head, and all the Nations be at Peace, and the whole Earth filled with his Glory —

And all servile labour is forbidden on said day.

Given under my hand, in Council, at Charlestown this 27th day of October in the fifth year of our Independence A.D. 1781.

God save the people

Thos Chittenden

A true copy Attest Thos Dithen. / [illegible] Secretary 9 C 1

Walpole Nov^r 15^th 1781.

Hon^d Sir,

Being prevented by bodily indisposition, from doing myself the honor of waiting upon you with a verbal account of our unhappy situation in this part of the State, by reason of the claim of Vermont upon us, must do it, as well as I can by writing, that the authority of the State may take such effectual measures as they ~~may~~ in their wisdom may Judge the present exigencies of affairs calls for — The enclosed declaration and other acts shews that the pretented officers of Vermont, notwithstanding any Resolutions of the Congress of the United States, mean, to exercise their authority, East of Connecticut River, in all cases whatsoever, in every place where their numbers render it safe for them so to do: and to prevent either officers or people still adhering to Hampshire from the exercising of any act of government or privilege according to the laws of said State — if these things are suffered by this State, and the Government of Hampshire will sit still and see her faithfull adherents dragged to Goal, for supporting in an orderly way, her Jurisdiction over a territory guarenteed by Congress our case is pitiable — Vermont has levied a tax upon the lands on this, as well as the west side of the River, and mean to collect it when they have a majority; the consequence of which I much fear will be violent if not sanguinary measures

We wait with impatience for some measures

taken

taken by you to allay our fears, and quiet our minds, under our present prospects — if the wisdom of the State should think it necessary to use more vigerous methods than they have as yet done, as no doubt they will, tho' I mean not to dictate, yet I think it might be best for any officers sent to support Government here, to come from off the Grants, as it would be more likely to settle us in peace, than the employing any among us, for this purpose, where we are so intermixed and near equally divided — I must further let your Honor know that if effectual methods were taken by the State to secure some of the leaders of the revolt, which I doubt not might be safely, if secretly and prudently attempted, be done, in all probability matters, would rest quiet till the United States could do something decisive, if they did not take a turn in our favour. Your Honor will make such use of what I have wrote you in confidence as the good of the whole State may call for, so as not to prejudice unnecessarily any against one who is with much sincerity

Your Honors most
Obedient and Humble Servt.
Benj[a] Bellows

Hon[ble] M. Weare

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Copy

Arlington 14th Decr 1781.

Sir,

I have received dispatches from William Page Esqr, Sheriff of Washington County which give me to understand that there is a high probability that the government of New Hampshire are about taking coercive measures to compel the peaceable citizens of this State to submit to the laws and authority of New Hampshire — The Sheriff further desires my special orders in matters relating to the premises and as my remote situation renders it impracticable that I should have the knowledge of the particular occurrences which may take place should such an attempt be made by New Hampshire, therefore I can only give you general orders in the matter viz. provided that New Hampshire reject the proposals of the Legislature of this State and insist upon hostile measures you are hereby directed to call on such of the members of the Council and the Generals Fletcher and Cleott and such of the field Officers of the Militia on the east side of the Mountain as you may think proper, and after having consulted matters (if need be) you are directed to call on any or all of the Militia of this State to the eastward of the range of Green Mountains to your assistance and to assist the Sheriff in carrying into execution the

the laws of this State, and to defend its citizens against any insult, and provided New Hampshire make an attack with an armed force, you are hereby ordered to repel force by force — in the mean time you will use every means in your power consistent with the happiness of and dignity of this State to prevent the effusion of human blood, which at this time might be more or less injurious to the common cause of America as well as attended with many other serious considerations and which I pray God may never take place

I am Sir

your obedient

and humble Servant

Thos. Chittenden Capt. Genl.

Elisha Payne Esqr.

Major General

N. B. Provided a Force from New Hampshire precipitate an invasion you must act with that expedition which their measures may require with such council as you can in haste collect

J. C. —

2412

237:138

Arlington December 15th 1781.

Sir,

I have consulted a number of the members of my Council on the controversy between this and the State of New Hampshire respecting the boundary lines between the two States, whereupon I do hereby ~~from~~ appoint & authorise you to repair to the Genl. Court of New Hampshire & there use your influence that they comply with the proposals of the Legislature of this State for an amicable settlement; thereby if possible to prevent the effusion of human blood as the appearance of civil war will but too much give countenance to the Common Enemy of these States

Thos. Chittenden

To Colo. Ira Allen

(copy)

Substance of the complaint exhibited against Nathl. Bingham & John Grundy by Saml. Davis

To the Hona. Saml. King Esq. Justice of the Peace complains Samuel Davis that on the night of the 5th of Novr instant being in the house of Nathl. Bingham in the execution of his office as Constable in attempting to serve a precept upon James Robertson that John Grundy did by force & arms oppose him the Sd Saml Davis & did not suffer him to make his service all which is against the peace & dignity of this State; this is therefore to pray your Hon.r to grant a warrant to apprehend the Sd Grundy so that he may be done with as law & justice doth thereunto appertain as ~~xx~~ in duty bound your complainant in duty bound shall ever pray

Saml. Davis Con.

Mr Binghams crime was that on the above night Sd Bingham did by force & arms oppose the said Davis & ordered him to depart from his house & told him that none of his precepts should be served in his house

Do ~~xx~~ both of the above complaints when the questions were asked whether guilty or not guilty they said not guilty; then the influence of their Court was used for them to throw themselves ~~xxxx~~ on the mercy of their Court & submit their ~~xxxx~~ cause to a Jury but they refusing, they proceeded to examine into

into the complaint & endeavoured to support it by four evidences — The crime appearing so high the Justices ordered them to be recognized to the Superior Court & procure bonds or go to Jail; — they offering to go to Jail the greatest pains possible was taken to persuade them to procure bail & offers made to them even to take any persons word which they would produce in lieu of bonds if they would comply.

By the best information that can be obtained of a complaint which is exhibited against Lt. Lee, he is charged with threatning to take the life of the S^d Serm^t Davis whereupon a warrant is issued & orders given to break up any house where the S^d Lee may be found.

State of ~~New Hampshire~~ Vermont
Washington ss

12 Nov. 1781 Whereas John Grandy Junr. of Chesterfield in said County was convened before me Samuel King, Esqrie, one of the Justices of the Peace for said County for impeading and hindering one Sam. Davis, Constable of said Chesterfield executing his office, and I proceeded to examine into the ~~the nature~~ matter and after due examination into the matter, the offence appeared to me with its aggravations to be so serious and horrid that I ordered the offender to be bound to the next County Court and the said John did refuse to get bondsmen for his appearence at said Court.

To the Sheriff of said County his Deputy or either of the Constables [of] the town of Chesterfield.

In the name and by the authority of the freemen of the State of Vermont you are hereby required to take the body of John Grandy Junr. of said Chesterfield, if he may be found ~~in~~ within your precinct and him commit to the Common Goal in Charlestown in said County within his said Prison and our said Sheriff or Goal Keeper is hereby required to keep the said John till he be had before our Justices of our next County Court to be holden in said County

Hereof fail not as you will answer on your peril. Given under my hand at Chesterfield this 12th day of November 1781

271 Samuel King Justice of the Peace

Att. Isaac Griswold Dept. Sheriff
A true copy of what was left with me on
the committing John Grandy to the Goal in
Charlestown on the 14th of Nov. 1781

Attest.

The within copy was drawn by a person
who was favoured by the Goal keeper
with the copies left with him, and the
Goal keeper was desired to examine and
attest it but declined; it was then presented
to the Sheriff with the same request and
he declined signing it

State of Vermont
Washington ss.
12 Nov. 1781

Whereas Nathaniel Bingham was convicted before me Moses Smith Justice [of the] Peace within and for the County of Washington for impeading and hindering as well as opposing an officer in the execution of his office in Chesterfield, in the County aforesaid I thereupon having taken ~~the~~ into consideration the case aforesaid do adjudge that the said Nathaniel find sureties to the next County Court of Common Pleas to be holden in this County in the sum of five hundred pounds lawfull money &c. for his appearance at said [Court]

These are therefore in the name and by the authority of the freemen of the State of Vermont to command you the Sheriff— under Sheriff or Deputy or Goalers of the County aforesaid to receive the body of the said Nathaniel and him keep and have in the Goal of our said County until he may be had before the Justices of our County Court, or Court of Common Pleas next to be holden at Charlestown within the County aforesaid— Hereof fail not at your peril. Given under my hand this 12th day of November A. D. 1781.

Moses Smith Justice of the Peace

Att. Isaac Griswold Dept. Sheriff

A true copy of what was left with me on the committing Nathaniel Bingham to Goal in Charlestown

Charlestown on the 14th of Novr. 1781

Attest

copy of Nathl. Brigham Mitr.

237:143

State of New Hampshire }
Cheshire ss } To the Honorable the Council
and House of Representatives in General Assembly
now sitting at Exeter 16 Nov. 1781

The petetion of Nathaniel Bingham and
John Grandy Junr. of Chesterfield in said County —

Humbly shews That your petetioners are
now confined in the Goal in Charlestown in said
County by two several Mittimuses the one signed
by Samuel King, the other by Moses Smith of Ches-
terfield aforesaid, for the supposed crime of opposing
a Constable acting under the authority of the State of
Vermont in said Chesterfield, as by the copies of the
Mittimuses herewith transmitted will appear.

How far we are justly chargable with the fact
of opposing the said Constable / for we suppose it to
be no crime your Honors will be able to judge
from an impartial account of our conduct
presented ✱ by the bearer — The pain we feel from
our disagreeable confinement induces us to trouble
the Assembly with this petetion, not doubting but
that they will grant us such relief as on a full
consideration of our case shall be thought expedient
and as in duty bound shall ever pray

Nath. Bingham
John Grandy Junr.

Charlestown Novr ye 16th 1781

2 10

237:124

As the Town of Chesterfield in the County of Cheshire has been some time destitute of any Officers either Civil or Military who would act under the authority of New Hampshire, we were advised by some of the principal persons in the County to nominate one or two persons as Justices of the Peace and return their names to the Assembly to be commissioned if they thot proper. We were accordingly assembled for that purpose at my house in said Chesterfield on the evening of the sixth of November instant, about 8 o'Clock in the evening Samuel Davis of Chesterfield aforesaid, who was legally appointed and sworn as Constable for said Town for the present year, but has since taken another oath as Constable for the same town under the authority of the State of Vermont, under which authority only he will act- came in with five others, and after some conversation took a book from under his coat which I suppose to contain the laws of Vermont, and said he would be glad to read a paragraph in it. I told him, I did not chose to have him read any of the acts or laws of Vermont there, and forbade his doing it, and desired him to withdraw for he interrupted us, and some one in the company said if he read any riot Act there it would be kicked into the fire, after some other conversation he put up his book and said he had a Precept against one of the company and I forbade his reading it any precept under

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under Vermont in my house, on which he and his attendants left us.

On the 12th of Nov. inst. I was taken by a Warrant signed by Moses Smith, directed to the Sheriff of the County of Washington, and carried before the said Smith, and sentenced as set forth in the Mittimus, and kept in close confinement until the afternoon of the 13th instant then conveyed to the north part of Walpole and the next day committed to this Goal with John Grendy Junr. who is in the same situation with myself, except that he was committed by Samuel King —

The above is a true state of facts, which I beg leave humbly to submit to the General Assembly of the State of New Hampshire

Nathaniel Bingham

Charlestown Novr. ye 16th 1781.

To the Speaker of the House of Representatives

237:125

Charlestown Nov^{mr} 23^{d} 1781

Provision Return of a Regt from the State of New Hampshire Commanded by Lt. Col. Reynolds three days

		Captains	Subs	No. of Men	Off's Rations	Private Rations	No of Days	Wht. of Beef	Wht. of Bread	Pounds Candles	
Col^{o} Mes^{s}											
Capt. ~~Mes~~ Parsons		1	1	33	1	1	3	131	105		
Capt. Woodman		1	1	47	1	1	3	184	147		
Capt. Boyes				52		1	3	195	156		
Capt. Thomes		1		23	1	1	3	90	72		
Capt Webster		1		28	1	1	3	109	87		
Capt. Head		1	1	39	2	1	3	161	129		
Capt Mills		1	1	40	1	1	3	161	129		
Total		6	4	257				1031	825	10½	

N.B. fourteen Rations in this Return were detained from Capt Woodmen Capt. Mills 2 Rations left of Capt. Mills Comp^{y}. 1 Ration

Daniel Reynolds Lt Col^{o} Comd^{t}

Rec^{d} of Col. Hunt Commiss^{y}. of issue at Charlestown on Acct of the within Return Nine hundred sixty one pounds Salt Beef, Seven hundred sixty nine pounds of Bread & ten & half pounds candles; — fourteen Rations for four days being reducted out of Capt^{s} Head & Woodmans Companies

Nov. 23^{d} 1781 252 Josiah Flagg Le^{r} Mast^{r}

237. 147

29 Nov. 1781

State of Vermont } Whereas Enoch Hale Esqr.
Washington ss } hath been this day brought
before us Benjamine Giles, Nathe S. Prentice and
Elijah Bingham Esqrs. three of the Justices of
the Peace for said County on a complaint exh-
ibited against him by Isaac Ely for attempting
to break the Common Goal in Charlestown in
said County with an intent to release Nathe
Bingham and John Grandy & the Prisoners in
said Goal which fact being fully proved by the
oaths of the said Isaac Ely and Isaac Griswold
the said Enoch Hale was ordered to recognize
for his appearance at the next County Court
in said County in the sum of five hundred
pounds with sufficient surety or stand committed
and the said Enoch Hale refusing to recognize

These are therefore in the name and by the
authority of the ~~of the~~ freemen of the State
of Vermont, to ~~xx~~command the Sheriff of the said
County of Washington his Deputy or Goal Keeper
to receive the body of said Enoch Hale and
him detain in the common Goal in Charles-
town in said County until he shall be
discharged according to law, for which this
shall be your warrant. Given under our
hands, at Charlestown, this 29th day of November
A. D 1781

Benja Giles
Nathl. S. Prentiss
Elijah

Elijah Bingham

Attest

A true copy

Isaac H. Ely Goal Keeper

A true copy of a copy attested by the said Ely

Attest Enoch Hale

According to the within Mittimus I have committed the within Enoch Hale to the Goal in Charlestown Nov.r 29th 1781

Isaac Griswold Dep.ty Sheriff

So

A true copy

237:149

State of New Hampshire

In the year of our Lord, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty one

An Act 2 1 7 N. 81

For impowering the Sheriff of the County of Cheshire to release from Prison sundry of the good Subjects of this State, imprisoned by certain evil minded Persons, assuming Authority for so doing under the People inhabiting a Territory commonly called Vermont; and for apprehending the Persons so offending.

Whereas the People inhabiting a Tract of Country of the West Side of Connecticut River, originally granted by this State, and afterwards claimed by the State of New York, have erected themselves into a seperate and independent Jurisdiction by the Name of the State of Vermont; And whereas, sundry Persons, have by Colour of Authority under the said pretended State of Vermont, acted as civil Officers, passed Judgment and committed to Prison sundry of the good Subjects of this State, and have seduced many of the Inhabitants of the Counties of Cheshire and Grafton to submit to the Jurisdiction of the said pretended State of Vermont, by means of whereof the proper Officers of the said Counties may be unable to release the good Subjects of this State from such illegal Imprisonment, and to apprehend the Persons offending, without the special Aid of this Assembly; and inasmuch as an impartial

2 20

Trial

Trial of the said Offenders cannot probably be had within the said Counties where the Offences have or may be committed:

Therefore — Be it enacted by the Council and House of Representatives, in General Assembly convened, and by the Authority of the same, it is hereby enacted, That the Committee of Safety be, and hereby is empowered and authorised to issue their Order to the Sheriff of the County of Cheshire to release from Prison all Persons confined, or who may hereafter be confined in either of the said Counties by Order, Proces or Authority of any pretended Court, Majistrate, Officers, or other Persons claiming Authority from the said pretended State of Vermont, and to apprehend the Persons, who heretofore have exercised, or who ~~xxxx~~ hereafter shall attempt to exercise any Office, Power or Authority within the said Counties of Cheshire or Grafton from, by or under the said pretended Authority of Vermont, and to convey said Offenders to the common Goal in the County of Rockingham, or such other County in this State as the said Committee may order, there to remain until released by Order of the General Assembly, the Committee, or by due course of Law.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Committee of Safety be, and hereby are impowered to authorize the Sheriff of the said County of Cheshire to call upon the Sheriffs of

any or either of the
of ~~the~~ other Counties in the State, to raise in the
Body of their respective Counties to aid and assist
him in executing the Order of the Committee of
Safety, either to release persons imprisoned as aforesaid
or to apprehend the Person or Persons imprisoning
them, and to convey the said Offenders to any Prison
within this State, and also to command the Aid
of any Officer or Officers of the Militia or Troops
of this State, which may at the time be within
the limits thereof, and commanded by an Officer
commissioned by this State, and all Officers and other
Subjects of this State shall yield due Obedience
to such command

And be it further enacted by the Authority
aforesaid, That the several and respective Courts
of Judicature in the County or Counties where
the said Offenders may be confined, be and they
are hereby respectively impowered to hear, try and
determine any Process or Processes against the
said offenders, and to give Judgment and award
Execution thereon in the same Manner as
though the Offence had been committed within
the Body of the County where such Trial is
had; any Law, Usage or Custom to the contrary
in any wise notwithstanding

State of New
Hampshire } In the House of Representatives,
November 27th 1781.

The foregoing Bill having been read a third Time,

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voted.

Voted, That it pass to be enacted.

Sent up for concurrence,

Wm. Whipple, Speaker P. T.

In Council, November 28th 1781

This Bill was read a third time, and voted,
That the same be enacted

M. Weare, President

Copy examined by Joseph Pearson D. Secry.

237:151

Walpole Nov^r 29^th 1781

Sir,

The methods taken by the General Assembly for liberating Messrs Bingham and Grandy are so fer from being effectual for that purpose, that the authority of Vermont have imprisoned the Sheriff of the County of Cheshire who was sent here for the purpose aforesaid, the authority of said Vermont are determined to keep the Goal and the Prisoners, and also to withstand and oppose (by Force of Arms) all the Sheriffs and their Posses who may be employed by New Hampshire to counteract any of their purposes or designs; it is said that they can raise (by their account) six hundred men at the shortest notice, who will resolutely dispute the ground inch by inch., That the Posse should be raised to carry the orders of this State into execution now, is absolutely necessary, something effectual must be done, dallying will not answer, and unless some force can be obtained from without the County of Cheshire, it will not be advisable to dispute the ground any longer. You can but be sensible of the ill consequences of such an attempt from within ourselves within this county and especially within the Grants, for should the friends of New Hampshire generally exert themselves at this time it would universally alarm the Vermonters, and many who would not otherwise arm in this quarrel would exert themselves to the utmost to

oppose

oppose the orders of the Assembly and all the New Hampshire authority — I should think that if New Hampshire are determined to support and protect their friends in this quarter and to maintain their Jurisdiction it will be absolutely necessary that a sufficient force should be collected from without the Grants. be shure, if not from without the County of Cheshire; you will put yourself in our circumstances and especially in those of the Sheriff and the other Prisoners, and I think you cant hesitate a moment respecting what is necessary to be done and how it should be done —

I am with esteem your Honors
most Obedt Humble Sert
Benja Bellows

Hon[ble] M. Weare

15

To Col.o Chamberlain

I shall transmit to you a copy of an express I recd Sabbath-day night for the Sheriff of this County —

State of Vermont
County of Washington } Charlestown December 1st A.D. 1781

Sir, Two men belonging to Chesterfield have been taken by the authority of this State and committed in the Goal in Charlestown for opposing the Constable of said Chesterfield in the execution of his office intelligence of which has been sent to the General Court of New Hampshire who did Resolve, That Col.o Hale proceed to said Goal and release the Prisoners and in case of resistance to call on the Civil and Military authority of the State of New Hampshire to support him, meaning the authority of the County of Cheshire; Col.o Hale arrived here on the 28th of November last demanded the prisoners, they being refused he attempted to break the Goal in order to release them, for which he was taken and committed to prison, was released on his parole for the purpose of consulting General Bellows and calling on him to raise the Militia agreeable to the order of said Court, but the General refused to do it. The Col.o is returned and is now under confinement having the liberty of the yard. On the evening of the 29th General Bellows sent an express to the General Court of New Hampshire now

now sitting, excusing himself for not raising the Militia and informing them that if the Militia are to be raised its would be best to raise them without the limits of the County. For the relief of Col: Hale doubtless there will be a force sent to relieve him him, in which case I shall call on you for assistance to withstand any force that may be sent to relieve him if I am advised by proper authority as the Law directs. I wish your Regiment might be notified without loss of time to be in readiness, properly provided with provisions, arms and ammunition to march on the shortest notice, should I be under the disagreeable necessity of calling for your assistance. I have sent similar letters to Colonels Haywood, Chase and Childs Regiments — have only to add, that if the people that elected me into Office will not turn out at so critical a juncture to defend me and the Honour of the State and its laws I shall be under the disagreeable necessity of giving up a cause which I undertook for my own and their good

I am Sir, your most obedient
Humble Sent.
William Paige Sheriff

To Col: Samuel King

200 Therefore Sir,

State of Vermont
County [of] Washington } Charlestown Decmr 2d. 1781.

The following is the copy of a Letter from Doctr. Page —

Sir, Two men belonging to Chesterfield have been taken by the authority of this State and committed to Goal in Charlestown for opposing the Constable of said Chesterfield in the execution of his office, intelligence of which has been sent to the Genl. Court of New Hampshire who did resolve that Colo Hale proceed to said Goal and release the prisoners, and in case of opposition to call on the civil & Military authority to support him, Colo. Hale arrived on ye 28th of Nov. last & demanded the prisoners, they being refused he attempted to break open the Goal & release them, for which he was taken & committed to prison, but was released on his parole for the purpose of consulting General Bellows & calling on him to raise the Militia agreeable to the order of said Court, but the Genl. refused to do it. The Col. is returned and now under confinement. — On the evening of the 29th Genl. Bellows sent an express to the Genl. Court of N. Hampshire excusing himself for not raising the Militia, and informing them that if the Militia were to be raised it would be best to raise them without the limits of this County, doubtless there will be a force sent for the relief of Col. Hale, in which case I shall call

9 4/6

call on you for apistance to oppose any force that may be sent, I therefore wish you to notify your Regiment without lop of time to be in readineſs with arms, ammunition & provision to march when-ever I shall call to my support. — Have only to add that if the people that elected me into office will not turn out at so critical a juncture to support me in the execution of my office I shall be under the disagreable neceſsity of giving up a cause which I undertook for their & my own good.

I am Sir, &c.

Wm. Paige Sheriff

Sir,

I should be glad you would show this to Capt. Hooper and Lieut. Bundy & assist them in notifying all that are friendly to the New State to be in readineſs with their arms & Ammunition compleat, with two or three days provisions, to march to Charlestown on the shortest notice. I am your Humble Sert.

Wm Heywood Colo. —

Capt. Hutchens.

Therefore Sir, I would desire you to favor the Captains in your Town with a copy of this, or with this and exert yourself that the men may all be ready to march at the shortest notice, and doubt not your nor the Captains exertions on such an important matter and critical time as I view this to be and wish they may universally turn out in defence of so just a cause

So I remain your most obedient Servant

Samuel King Col.

December 3d 1781

To Col Chamberlain, Capt Franklin, Capt. Coal and Capt. Butterfield

P. S. I have sent this day to the other Towns in the Regiment similar letters to this.

237: 155

Sir,

I beg leave to inform your Hon: that the pretended Colo Ring has sent out by orders as I am informed from Doc. Page to raise his Regt to oppose New Hampshire, and that he called the Militia of this Town together yesterday to see who would fight against New Hampshire and that as I am credibly informed there was about sixty turned out as volenters for that purpose, and that the Sd Ring urged them in the strongest terms to stand by one another and by their officers for their rights against the State of New Hampshire, assuring them that if they stood firm New Hampshire would not fight. It is also reported that he sent over to Col. Sargants, at ~~Bristol~~ Brattleborough to apprise but what return unknown

Sir, I thought proper to inform you of these movements, and I pray Heaven to give both you and the State of New Hampshire Wisdom to conduct matters wisely at such a critical day as this

From your most obedient and Humble Sert.

Michael Bresey

Chesterfield December ye 5th 1781

To Genl Bellows

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Charlestown Goal Dec. 12th 1781

Sir, I have to inform your Honr that I wait the pleasure of the Honble Committee of Safety who I trust well know my situation. Sir, I have given bonds for the liberty of the yard but could not give bonds to appear at an unknown Court — for the Honrs of the State that sent me to this place — However I was prevented doing the business that I was sent upon, yet I found the people to be much disappointed when they see that I refused to recognize and said that it would immediately bring on a quarrel, and many said they never would take up arms for the sake of Jurisdiction and could only wish to know the pleasure of Congress on the matter which I think has been much kept from them by designing persons. Sir, even those that are leading in the insurrection were panic struck on hearing that two thousand men was on their march but have since been much encouraged by hearing that the State of New Hampshire did not know what to do with them. Sir I think that now is the time to put our laws in execution more especially the late Act. Sir, the wisdom of the Honble Committee of Safety is sufficient to direct them —

I am Sir, with much Respect

your Honrs most

Obedt Humble Servt

Enoch Hale

Honorable

Mesheck Weare Esqr

President &c.

237.157

Philadelphia Decr 18th 1781

Dear Sir,

I received yours of the 4th instant with the papers inclosed which I this day laid before Congress (except those which contain the memoures of Vermont Assembly at Charlestown, which Congress were already possessed of) Congress appointed a comtee of five to take them into consideration and report. Every Member of Congress but one appeared in our favour & against Vermont as far as I could judge. Nevertheless I do not pretend to predict the measures that will be taken. The labouring oar I think is on Congress to support their own honour, dignity and authority. I wish to keep it so. I shall further advise of what may turn up.

I am with great esteem your most obedt Servant

Samuel Livermore

Honble. President Weare

The resolutions of Vermont were brot to Philada last week by one Mr Brunson a Counsellor as I understand of that State

President Wheelock is here & professes to have no hand in politics, but is trying to get contributions for his Indian School &c

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237:158

Arlington 14th December 1781

Sir,

I have received dispatches from William Page Esqr. Sheriff of Washington County which gives me to understand that there is a high probability that the government of New Hampshire are about taking coersive measures to compel the peacable citizens of this State to submit to the laws and authority of New Hampshire, the Sheriff further desires my special orders in matters relating to the premises, and as my remote situation renders it impracticable that I should have the knowledge of the particular occurences which may take place should such an attempt be made by New Hampshire therefore I can only give you general orders in the matter viz. provided that New Hampshire reject the proposals of the Legislature of this State and insist upon hostile measures you are hereby directed to call on such of the Members of the Council & the Generals Fletcher & Olcott and such of the field Officers of the Militia on the East side of the Mountain as you may think proper and after having consulted matters, if need be you are directed to call on any or all the Militia of this State to the eastward of the range of Green Mountains to your assistance and to assist the Sheriff in carrying into execution the laws of this State and to defend its citizens

against

against any insult and provided New Hampshire make an attack with an armed force you are hereby ordered to repel force by force and in the mean time you will use every measure in your power consistant with the peace, honor & dignity of this State to prevent the effusion of human blood, which at this time might be more or less injurious to the common cause of America as well as attended with many other serious considerations and which I pray God may never take place

I am Sir,

your obedient and

Humble Servant

Thos. Chittenden

Capt. General

Elisha Payne Esqr.

Majr Genl.

N. B Provided a force from New Hampshire precipitate any measure you must act with that expedition which their manoves may require, with such Council as you can in haste collect

237:159

Charlestown Decr 21st 1781

Sir,

I herewith transmit to your Honor a copy of orders received from the Commander in Chief of the State of Vermont, ifsued in consequence of ~~exercise~~ coercive measures persuing by New Hampshire from which you will learn my situation

Inclination and duty conspire to induce my compliance with any measures which reason and justice may point out to avert threatning hostilities, pregnant not only with the horrors of civil war, but also the greatest injury to the United States, whose interest it is our desire as well as yours to support — have therefore by advice of sundry members of the council of this State and other Gentlemen of influence and consideration now present appointed Brigadier General Enos and William Page Esqr. with Col: Ira Allen / already appointed by the Governor to wait on your Assembly / to state before the said Assembly the reasonableness of the late proposals of the Legislature of Vermont transmitted to your Honors by a committee appointed by said Legislature for that purpose for a settlement of the disputes between New Hampshire and Vermont

You must be sensible it has ever been our idea to have justice and equity take place in the decision, and therefore by the advice aforesaid

aforesaid renew proposals that the controversy in respect to the territory, the jurisdiction of which is in dispute between the said States be decided by an impartial tribunal on principles of right and equity in the mode Congress have pointed out by articles of confederation of the United States, in cases where disputes arise between two or more States in respect to boundary, jurisdiction &c. Vermont being allowed equal privileges as the other party in supporting their claim — and that hostilities between the said States be suspended till such trial can be had.

We doubt not a compliance on the part of Vermont with the foregoing proposals which appear to us equitable and just, and are persuaded that New Hampshire are so possessed of principles of justice and equity as shall induce a compliance on their part, and hope for their favourable answer to lay before the Assembly of Vermont for their concurrence at the meeting on the last Thursday in January next.

In case New Hampshire refuse compliance with equitable terms (as we view the foregoing) and are determined on hostilities previous to attempts for an amicable settlement, I shall find myself under the disagreeable necessity to execute the orders I have received in rising

the force of Vermont to repel encroachments on its jurisdiction exercised by consent of the people and which I doubt not their most spirited exertions to support till the dispute is decided, confident that New Hampshire in case they commence hostilities must be accountable for the consequences.

I have the honor to be with esteem and respect — Sir,

Your honor's most obedient
and most humble Servant
Elisha Payne Lieut. Govr

His Honor Meshech Weare Esqr.
President of the Council of New Hampshire

237:161

Arlington December 14th 1781

Sir,

I received your dispatches of the 9th and 12th instant, last evening by Capt. Watherbee. have considered the same and do approve of your conduct in every particular —

I have wrote Major Genl. Payne in which I have given him particular orders with the advice of certain gentlemen therein named to give you such assistance as shall be necessary for the support of Government in your quarter

I am Sir, with Respect

your Hble Servant

Thos. Chittenden

William Page Esqr.

True copy

test. William Page

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237:162

State of Vermont

To Brigadier General Roger Enos and
William Page Esquire —

Gentlemen —

By advice of sundry members of the Council of this State, you are hereby appointed and empowered to repair forthwith to the Assembly of New Hampshire and in conjunction with Colo Ira Allen (already there by appointment of the Governor) use your endeavours that said Assembly consider and concur in the proposals made to them for settlement of the dispute between the two States relative to jurisdiction, and agree on measures to prevent hostilities till an equitable and impartial determination of the said disputes can be obtained

Elisha Payne Lieut. Govr.

Charlestown Decr 21 A.D. 1781.

Charlestown December 22d 1781

Much Respected Sir,

I have this moment an opportunity by Doctr Page of paying my respects to the General Assembly, but the small intelligence I have received sin'ce my confinement puts me under some disadvantage in writing — the suspension of operations on the part of New Hampshire in support of their jurisdiction is to me unknown and I perceive that a further suspension will be requested on the part of the people on the New Hampshire Grants which I could not object to in case that might be productive of an honorable settlement and the prevention of human blood — I have urged the necessity of Jurisdiction on the part of New Hampshire at least that it should not be arrested out of our hands without any trial or consent.

You will now see by the despatches on their part that a trial is proposed (though in the mean time they choose to hold the key) and in case the General Assembly of New Hampshire shall consent to such a trial to come in for the same in two separate bodies in the line prescribed by Confederation for settling boundary lines I should expect a suspension of those matters and govern myself as the wisdom

of

9.15

of the General Assembly may direct — but in case the proposals on their part should appear to the General Assembly of New Hampshire to be inadmissible and no proposals made by our Assembly should be complied with — in such case I humbly conceive a suspension of operation would be attended with bad consequences — as sending out orders and counter-orders to the militia would be productive of a spirit of slumber in them and weaken the hands of government — the wisdom of the General Assembly will direct them. Here only to add that I have been used well as a Prisoner — have had the liberty of the yard, and they now begin to desire me to depart out of their coast — I am Sir,

Your Honours most obedient

Humble Servt.

Enoch Hale

The Hon^ble President

1814

237:164

State of New Hampsh^re } In the House of Representatives

Dec^r 27^th 1781.

The committee to consider what is to be done respecting Mr William Page report "That they have examined the said William Page and the evidence respecting his conduct and it plainly appearing that he has accepted the office of Sheriff under the usurped authority of Vermont & exercised the same for a considerable time within the County of Cheshire and are of opinion that the said William Page should be committed to Goal at Exeter on a Mittimus from some Magistrate within the County of Rockingham to take his trial at the next Superior Court to be holden within said County of Rockingham

Signed, W^m. Langdon for the Committee

which report being read and considered — Voted that the same be received & accepted

Sent up for concurrence

John Langdon Speaker

In council the same day read and concurred

E Thompson Sec^y.

9509

State of
New Hamps^r } In the House of Representatives
Decr 27^th 1781

The committee to consider of the propriety of admitting William Page to bail reported as their opinion" that the said Page be not at present liberated which is submitted — signed —

Nich^o Gilman for the Committee

Which report being read & considered
Voted, that it be received & accepted
Sent up for concurrence

John Langdon Speaker

In Council the same day, read and Con^d.

E Thompson Secy.

237:167

Eyeter Dec^r 29^th 1781

Sir,

As it appears on all sides that both New Hampshire & Vermont are willing to submit to Congress the settlement of the dispute between the respective States and as the Legislature of Vermont are not possesed of the Act or Acts of New Hampshire refering them matters to Congress have to request a copy of said Act or Acts together with a copy of the Resolutions of the Legislature on the proposals of the Legislature of Vermont in October last

That I may lay them before the Legislature of Vermont at their Session in Jan^y. next thereby to facilitate a settlement at Congress

I am Sir

with due Respect

your Humble Servt

Ira Allen

The Honble

Elisha Bartlett Esqr.

President

127

237:168

Exeter Dec^{r} 29th 1781

Sir,

You will herewith receive a Duplicate of our Commission to attend the Genl. Court of New Hampshire, and have to add, that notwithstanding one of our colleagues Wm Page Esqr. being confined in Goal, contrary as we conceive to the laws of States or Nations, we are so desirous of an accomodation we [are] ready to enter on the buisness of our mission

We are with sentiments
of Esteem your
Humble Servt
Roger Enos
Ira Allen

The Honble
Elisha Bartlett Esqr.
President ___

92

237:170

State of New Hampshire } In Committee of Safety
27th Dec. 1781.

(L.S.) To Robert Smith of Londonderry

Greeting —

Whereas information has been given to this Committee, that Samuel King, Gentleman, Moses Smith Yeoman both of Chesterfield, Isaac Griswold of Keene Yeoman, and Nathaniel Sartel Prentice of Alsted Esquire, all in the County of Cheshire and State aforesaid, have been guilty of sundry practices inimical to this State, Therefore —

You are hereby required in the Name of the Government and People of said State forthwith to apprehend the Bodies of the said Samuel King, Moses Smith, Isaac Griswold & Nathaniel Sartel Prentice if they may be found within this State, and bring them, as soon as may be, before the Committee of Safety to be examined touching the matters alledged against them, that they may be dealt with as to Justice shall appertain.—

And all Officers, Civil & Military, and other Subjects of this State, are hereby required to be aiding and assisting you in the Premises —

Hereof fail not and make return of this

Warrant with your doings thereon

Given under my hand and Seal

on the day above mentioned

Josiah Bartlett Chairman.

State of New Hampshire

Rockingham ss.

Pursuant to the within Warrant

I have apprehended the body of the within

named Nathaniel Scarlet Prentice Esqr. and

have him before the Committee of Safety

for said State this seventh day of January 1782.

Robt Smith Special Sheriff

Pursuant to the within Warrant I have

apprehended the within named Samuel King

Gentlem who was rescued. the others are

not found

Robt Smith

Special Sheriff